

**PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

LARRY ZHAO  
JEREMY MARTIN  
HARTMUT RUELKE

Serial No.: 10/717,122

Filed: November 19, 2003

For: DIELECTRIC BARRIER LAYER FOR A  
COPPER METALLIZATION LAYER  
HAVING A VARYING SILICON  
CONCENTRATION ALONG ITS  
THICKNESS

Confirmation No.: 7303

Examiner: Alexander G. Ghyka

Group Art Unit: 2812

Att'y Docket: 2000.106900/DE0130

Customer No.: 23720

**MAIL STOP RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-identified application.

1.  Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114

a.  Previously submitted

i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on December 13, 2007.  
(Any unentered amendments referred to above will be entered).

ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

iii.  Other:

b.  Enclosed

i.  Amendment/Reply

iii.  Information Disclosure Statement  
(IDS)

ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declarations

iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. Miscellaneous

a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months. Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) **required**)

b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0786/DE0130:

i.  RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e)  
ii.  Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17)  
iii.  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

b.  Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAMS, MORGAN & AMERSON  
CUSTOMER NUMBER: 23720

Date: January 14, 2008

/J. Mike Amerson/

J. Mike Amerson  
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ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS